



Wednesday nights
Country Bible Church
God Who Knows All

Lesson Schedule:

- August 5 — Introductory Lesson (Also done on February 19)
Feb 26 — Welcome to the Weight of Majesty (video)
March 4 — Knowing the God Who is Incomprehensible (video)
Mar 11 — Discussion and Review — some teaching
August 12 — Knowing the God Who Cannot Change (video)
Aug 19 — Knowing the God Who is Infinite & Eternal (video)
Aug 26 — Knowing the God Who is Everywhere (video)
September 2 — Knowing the God Who is Almighty (video)
Sept 9 — Discussion and Review — some teaching
Sept 16 — Knowing the God Who is Knows All (video)
Sept 23 — Knowing the God Who is Rules All (video)
Sept. 30 — Knowing the God Who is Holy (video)
October 7 — Knowing the God Who of Wrath (video)
Oct 14 — Discussion and Review – some teaching
Oct 21 — Knowing the God Who is Good (video)
Oct 28 — Knowing the God Who is Love (video)
November 4 — Knowing the God Who is Patient and Zealous (video)
Nov 11 — Make up day

“The world becomes a strange, mad, painful place, and life in it a disappointing and unpleasant business, for those who do not know about God.”¹

Jeremiah 9:23–24

Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.”

¹ J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*, p. 19

NOTES FROM THE VIDEO²

Biographical sketch – Ann Judson (6 ½ minutes)

How did Ann Judson endure?

“Every additional trial was ordered by infinite love and mercy.”

“This is the reward of all our exertions: ‘Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world’.”

God is both Ruler and Reward of His people.

Teaching

Ephesians 2:19-22; 3:8-11

Paul was set apart and equipped to preach the riches of Christ (especially to the Gentiles). In doing so, he was a part of the unfolding or unveiling of the ‘mystery’ of God – rescue in Jesus Christ. This is the display of God’s multi-splendored wisdom.

What kind of wisdom does Paul say we are viewing?

- A wisdom that is ‘manifold’
 - This wisdom is impressive for its numerous aspects
 - The diversity is extraordinary and yet, there is a beautiful harmony of all parts
 - As God works through the gospel, we see a multi-splendored wisdom

Where do we view this wisdom?

- In His work in the church (here on earth)
- The church is the canvas God uses to paint the portrait of His multi-splendored wisdom
- The church is a “billboard” – so that all who “drive by” see this wisdom
- We have a GREAT honor to display of God’s perfect wisdom

The church?? With all its imperfections and sinful tendencies?

Yes! God is pleased to reveal His wisdom through the church?

Who is being taught? Who is learning about God’s wisdom through the church?

- The angelic hosts
- The angels are viewing the glory of God’s wisdom
 - NOT by looking at God directly on His through
 - BUT by looking down into the flawed church where God is at work
 - There are aspects of God’s wisdom until they see it in believers on planet earth

² Media Gratiae, *Behold Your God: The Weight of Majesty*, Video 4 – “Knowing the God Who is Everywhere”

Gazing at/learning of the multi-splendored wisdom of God in the church as it is seen in the church.

Three aspects of the redemptive work of God in the church that show His wisdom

1.) Whom God chooses to save?

- The wisdom of God shines in a peculiar way when we see who God is working with
- Ephesians 1:4 “He chose us”
 - He = the infinite, incomparable, immutable, almighty God
 - Us = sinners (wicked, ruined, evil, sinful)
 - Chose
 - This is surprising because we are so needy, yet so unwilling to come as beggars to this King for help/rescue
 - Ephesians
 - Location = we were “far off/away” – spiritually distant from God; we were separate from Christ; without hope and God
 - Spiritual condition = dead; unresponsive to the realities of God; and insensible to this condition; darkness of soul
 - Lifestyle = walking according to the course of the world; living in the lust of the flesh; given over to sensuality; practicing evil
 - These describe the person God uses as a canvas to paint His wisdom

2.) How God chooses to save?

- By election
 - Everything about your salvation rides upon the wisdom of the Father’s choice of a Champion for the sinner
 - His choice = the Son
 - Isaiah 42 – my chosen One in Whom my soul delights
 - Election = a very mysterious doctrine
 - God chooses a nation... a people
 - Though difficult, it portrays the wisdom of God
 - Further – God CHOSE His Son for **humiliation**, so that He could CHOOSE a people for **exaltation**
 - This displays the wisdom of God in that it is the only way to perfectly accomplish His will for our salvation

- By God making peace with criminals
 - The criminals (us sinners) will be fully pardoned
 - This will be accomplished in justice – fully upholding the penalty of the law (through Christ!)
 - God used the enemies most clever schemes and used them for His perfect purposes
 - The greatest evil of injustice (murder of Jesus) becomes the greatest display of God’s justice (redemption of sinners)
- By turning enemies to friends
 - This is not just positional or legal
 - There is a change within us – the Spirit indwells us
 - This union changes everything about us!
 - We go from enemies to sons/daughters!
 - The dead are given life!
 - Seated with Christ!
 - And all of this is received by faith (no need to work for it)
- With the guarantee for everyone who believes to arrive safely in the end
 - “ALL that the Father gives me, I will rise up on the last day” – Jesus
 - The enemies are strong, but God keeps each one safe
 - Ephesians 1:13
 - Sealed by God – no one has the right to tamper with the Christian’s soul
 - Down payment – a guarantee of full payment
 - These keep the sinner saved
- With changes in the Christian life
 - Ephesians 4, 5, 6
 - God’s enemies begin to walk worthy of God’s calling

3.) Why God chooses to save?

- Ephesians 1:5, 12, 13; 2:5-7
 - The imperfect life of the church displays God’s wisdom for the praise of God’s glory!
- Your common life as you walk with Him, is made to be the most common mirror of an infinite wisdom – what an honor!

Interviews